

AIR NEWS

June 15, 2015 || News from the DNR Bureau of Air Management

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Wisconsin businesses honored for improving air quality

Congratulations to the three Wisconsin businesses that were honored recently by the Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air for their voluntary efforts to improve air quality.

The awards were presented May 21 during the 2015 Clean Air Extravaganza at Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce. The Clean Air Extravaganza is an annual event to celebrate the accomplishments of Wisconsin businesses and organizations that are improving air quality by voluntarily reducing emissions from their facilities and fleets, improving energy efficiency, providing employee commuter options and developing ways to educate the public about air quality issues.

This year's event theme was *Small Business: Big Strides*, addressing air quality challenges faced by small businesses and resources to help with presentations by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Small Business Environmental Assistance Program, the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, the State Energy Office, Focus on Energy Small Business Program, Visual Impressions, and Molded Dimensions.

Eric Nitschke, DNR Secretary Director, presented a Clean Air Recognition Award to both Fairmount Santrol (Bay City/Hager City, Maiden Rock, Menomonie) for their expansive community involvement and efforts to reduce fuel, energy and dust and to Roundy's Supermarkets Inc. (Milwaukee) for their leadership in innovation and energy improvements in their facilities and fleet. The Commuter Champ Award was presented to the Urban Ecology Center (Milwaukee) for their support of employee and visitor use of alternative transportation (via resources and incentives).

For more detailed information about the activities taken by the award winners, and the Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air, see <http://www.cleanairwisconsin.org/>



From left: Eric Nitschke (DNR), Jennifer Drury Buzecky (Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek SC--representing Roundy's), Kevin Christopherson (Roundy's Supermarkets), Martha Gillespie and Lauren Evans (Fairmount Santrol), Ken Leinbach (Urban Ecology Center), Dona Wininsky (American Lung Association and WPCA chairperson).

Five-year painter training for USEPA auto body refinishing rule



By Renee Lesjak Bashel, Environmental Assistance Coordinator

All auto body refinishing facilities are required to complete painter training and recertification every five years under the US Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) National Emissions Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Paint Stripping and Miscellaneous Surface Coating at Area Sources, also called the Auto Body Refinishing Rule.

In the spring of 2010, collision repair shops worked to complete the initial painter training requirements under the Auto Body Refinishing Rule. Painter experience was initially allowed to satisfy the training, but can no longer be used to meet the refresher training requirements. The rule requires each painter that sprays paint to repeat the training within five years of the original training or certification.

The painter training elements required in the rule include a classroom session focused on requirements of the USEPA rule, and both hands-on and classroom sessions on the following elements: proper operation of the spray booth and overspray filters, proper ventilation of paint booths to meet the pressure drop requirements, proper spray gun set up and operation, spray techniques for optimizing transfer efficiency and minimizing coating usage and overspray, and the proper spray gun cleaning techniques to minimize release of solvents.

The Auto Body Refinishing Rule goal is to reduce emissions of toxic air pollutants including metal compounds containing cadmium, chromium, lead, manganese, and nickel in the paint pigments. Switching to water-based coating systems does not exclude facilities from the rule requirement; some water-based coatings contain the regulated metal compounds in their pigments.

Shop owners must certify that each painter has completed the required training and retain a copy of the certification on site for all painters, including for any subcontractors that may paint in their shop. Painters should retain a copy of the certification for their personal records. All training certification records must be kept for at least five years from the date the record was created to meet the requirement of this rule.

Contact your local paint supplier or technical school for training opportunities.

For more information on the Auto Body Refinishing Rule, visit the Wisconsin Small Business Environmental Assistance Program web page at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/SmallBusiness/Resources/Autobody.html> or USEPA's web page at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/6h/6hpg.html>.

2015 Air, Air Everywhere poetry contest winners announced

By Lindsay Haas, natural resources educator

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources held their annual poetry contest this May to celebrate Clean Air Month. Third, fourth and fifth grade students across Wisconsin completed an activity from DNR's Air, Air Everywhere teacher's activity guide, and wrote poems and riddles on what they learned about our air. "We received many excellent entries and appreciate the creativity and hard work of all the students that participated," said Bart Sponseller, Air, Waste and Remediation & Redevelopment Deputy Division Administrator. The Department would like to announce that Kelsey Olmen of Green Lake School District took first place in this year's competition. Congratulations Kelsey! Here is the winning poem:

With Every Small Breath

With every small breath I feel alive
The freshness heals me and lets me thrive
With every small breath I feel I can fly
With the birds who enjoy the air as much as I
With every small breath I sing and run around

With all the air-lovers that I have found
With every small breath that is clean and fair
I am healed by the wind with love and care
As everyone else is in this world with clean, fresh air in every small breath.

For more information on the Air, Air Everywhere guide and to view the runners up, visit the [EEK! Web page](#). Educators may order the Air, Air Everywhere guide by sending your name and mailing address to DNRAirEducation@wi.gov.

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